

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 01652 081850Z

60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCS-03

SCA-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 /059 W
----- 093265

R 081816Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4731

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, EC

SUBJ: ECUADOR'S PRESS REPORTS ON "NEPTUNE" INCIDENT

1. QUITO'S PAPER EL TIEMPO CARRIED FRONT PAGE STORIES GIVING ALL VERSIONS INCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED ON "NEPTUNE" MARCH 6. FOREIGN OFFICE STATEMENT AFFIRMING DRUNKEN MEMBERS OF CREW ATTACKED ECUADOREAN GUARDS EARLY IN MORNING THUS PROVOKING SUPPORTING ACTION BY ECUADOREAN MILITARY TO RESTORE ORDER WAS ONLY VERSION PRINTED IN COMERCIO. STATEMENT CONCLUDES DETAINEES WOULD BE TRIED IN ACCORDANCE ECUADOREAN CODIGO DE POLICIA MARITIMO AND NOTES U.S. CONSUL GENERAL PROMPTLY NOTIFIED OF INCIDENT.

2. TIEMPO CARRIED VARIOUS ACCOUNTS OF INCIDENT AND ECUADOREAN NAVY'S DENIAL OF STORIES EMANATING FROM SAN DIEGO TO EFFECT NEPTUNE INCIDENT PROVOKED BY GUARD CARVING ON WALL OF SHIP'S PILOT HOUSE OR CABIN AND THAT SHIP SYSTEMATICALLY ROBBED AND CREW BEATEN.

3. GUAYAQUIL'S UNIVERSO CARRIES ONLY BRIEF ARTICLE ON INSIDE PAGES RELATING CALMING VERSION ISSUED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY.

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4. TELEGRAFO OF GUAYAQUIL CARRIED MOST COMPREHENSIVE

TREATMENT RELATING ALL VERSIONS, BOTH TELEGRAFO AND TIEMPO CITED STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WALTER CLARKE WHO STATED INEBRIATED SAILORS WHO RETURNED TO SHIP ATTACKED GUARDS.

5. COMMENT: PRESS TREATMENT HAS NOT BEEN INFLAMMATORY AND SUFFICIENT CONFUSION REGARDING DETAILS OF INCIDENT SHOULD MILITATE AGAINST INCIDENT RECEIVING EXAGGERATED PRESS ATTENTION.
BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP DETENTION, PRESS COMMENTS, FISHING BOATS, NEPTUNE, FISHERMEN, ATROCITIES
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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